

Chai-Lites

by Sharon L. Eiseman

Decalogue 'Chai-Lites': up to the minute news about busy members coming, going, celebrating, being recognized, volunteering, acquiring more titles and running and running—including for the judiciary! You should be in our next Tablets—so please let us know what you're doing!

Past President **Deidre Baumann**, was interviewed by the New York Times in relation to the Chicago mayoral election. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/02/us/chicago-election-lightfoot-preckwinkle.html>

An article authored by recently installed Decalogue President **Helen Bloch**, was published in the Illinois Bar Journal, entitled “To Pay Or Not to Pay: Should You Reimburse Your Employee’s Expenses?” Her piece focused on a recent amendment to the Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act that became effective January 1, 2019. The new law requires employers to reimburse employees for expenses incurred in the scope of their employment.

At the Illinois Creditors Bar Association annual dinner on April 25, 2019, **Hon. Martin P. Moltz**—our very own, always resplendently outfitted Decalogue Past President—received The Hon. Alexander P. White Award, which is indeed a prestigious recognition. And at the event, Judge Moltz of course stood up and out, this time in a lime green suit jacket with a bright green tie in the center of which was a sunburst shining brightly.

On May 16th, Decalogue Life Board Member **Ralph Ruebner**, received the John Marshall Law School’s 2019 Freedom Award. Now an associate dean emeritus since his retirement in 2015, Ruebner joined the John Marshall faculty in 1981. During his remarkably active career at JM, Prof. Ruebner founded the School’s Criminal Justice Clinic and served as its director for four years. For sixteen years he was also moot court director, and he chaired the law school’s Centennial Planning Committee. Prof. Ruebner was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in 2007.

Taylor Riskin accepted a new role as corporate counsel with Athletico. Additionally, in keeping with the theme of “newness” in Taylor’s life, her family recently celebrated the birth of her new nephew, Graham Levi Riskin, for whose bris the whole family was present. Welcome, Graham! May you live long and prosper!

Past President **Mitchell Goldberg** was named Chairperson of the Dean’s Advisory Council at DePaul University’s College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. And it is no surprise that Mitchell received a Vanguard Award this April at a special luncheon hosted by the Chicago Bar Association annually to honor those individuals and institutions in the legal community who have “made the law and legal profession more accessible to and reflective of the community at large.” Finally—at least for this issue—Mitchell volunteered “sua sponte” to speak, with his litigation opponent, to a group of high school seniors touring the Daley Center courtrooms on April 25th as part of the Women Everywhere: Partners in Service Education Day Project, a 20 year old NFP benefitting high school students and community service agencies that support women in need, of which Decalogue is a Bar Partner.

Sandy, the wife of 50-year Decalogue Society member **Ron Stackler**, achieved her Bat Mitzvah several weeks ago in the Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue. Mazel Tov, Sandy! Ron and Sandy are happily living in retirement in Malibu, California but clearly are keeping busy. Perhaps Malibu is a better environment in which to study for a Bat Mitzvah than Chicago!

Alan E. Sohn recently spoke at the National Business Institute program on probate. Happily for the audience, Alan covered “Complex Issues in Estate Administration.”

Victoria Shoemaker was elected to partnership at Cassidy Schade LLP in February 2019. Congratulations to Victoria on her important promotion and for being another valuable role model for women seeking advancement in the profession, especially within the law firm practice area.

Transcripts from a precedent setting deportation case that **Richard Hanus**, successfully defended—including up to the U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit—were adapted verbatim for the theatrical production of “The Courtroom.” The actual case is the subject of the precedent-making decision, *Keathley v. Holder*, 696 F.3d 644 (7th Cir. 2012). The production ran Off Broadway in recent months at various locations across New York City. Following a performance at a New York City Bar Association venue, Richard Hanus participated in a lively panel discussion about the play as well as current immigration law issues.

Past President **Curtis Ross** was just re-appointed to the Illinois State Bar Association’s Assembly Finance Committee by President David Sosin. Congratulations Curtis!

On July 10th, board member **Chuck Krugel** was part of a Financial Poise™ & West LegalEdcenter™ panel presentation entitled “Managing Leaves of Absence and Accommodating Disabilities.” On June 24, 2019, Chuck was featured in VentureClash.com’s article “Should You Require Your Employees to Sign a Non-Compete?” On June 12th, Chuck was quoted in Expert HR’s blog article: “Closing the Strategic Gaps Between HR and Senior Leadership.” On May 16th, Chuck spoke before The Masters Conference for Legal Professionals on their panel “Forensics: Past, Present, Future: Where Are We in 2019?” On May 9th, he participated on a panel for Resolution Economic on the subject of survey design. On May 8th, Chuck was part of Financial Poise & West LegalEdcenter™ webinar HR, “Talent Management & Employment Law Boot Camp: An Ounce of Prevention: Policies, Procedures and Proactivity.” On May 7th, Chuck presented before the Chicago Bar Association’s Solo & Small Firm Practitioners’ Committee on “How to Make Media Contacts & Obtain Media Interviews.” <http://waterwell.org/watch-the-courtroom-trailer/>. It’s exhausting just to imagine Chuck’s schedule! On June 11, 2019, the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE) noted its pleasure in announcing the presentation of its 2019 Addis E. Hull Award for Excellence in Continuing Legal Education to **Robert G. Markoff**, Markoff Law, LLC, Chicago. This Award recognizes Bob’s quarter-century of service to IICLE as a general editor, author, lecturer, board member and board chair, and acknowledges his outstanding leadership in Illinois continuing legal education through career-long scholarship and generosity in sharing his knowledge and experience with other Illinois attorneys.

Sharon Eiseman, long-time DSL board member and author of the Chai-Lites section of the Tablets, was recently the recipient of one of four ISBA Board of Governors Awards presented by ISBA President, the Hon. James McCluskey, on June 15th at the Association’s annual meeting in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Sharon received the Award “in recognition and appreciation of her service and contribution to the Association and the Bar of Illinois.”

Finally, board member **David Lipschitz**, a seasoned thespian and playwright as well as a very fine attorney, wrote a new play, *The Golden Girls: The Lost Episodes, Vol. 3*, which is currently being presented by Handbag Productions at its 5400 N. Clark St. venue through August. You have time to get tickets and when you go, consider yourself a drama critic and submit your review so we can publish it and support David in the process. David also authored another play, *The Lonely Devil Plays His Fiddle*. It too was produced and by Eclectic Full Contact Theatre, but sadly for us, it ran for one night only—with other plays—as part of the Theatre’s Chicago 24 Festival.

Sharon Eiseman is a board member of Decalogue and the Bureau Chief of Land Acquisition at the Illinois Attorney General’s Office.